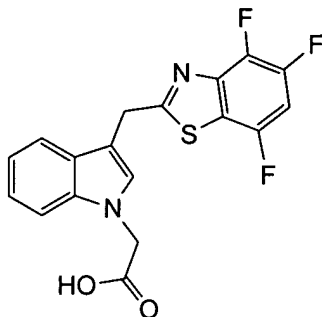


Listing of Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

Claim 1. (original) Hydrates of a compound of the formula:



Claim 2. (currently amended) A hydrate according to claim 1 which ~~compound that~~ is {3-[(4,5,7-trifluoro-1,3-benzothiazol-2-yl)methyl]-1H-indol-1-yl}acetic acid monohydrate.

Claim 3. (currently amended) A pharmaceutical composition comprising an effective amount of a compound according to claim 1 ~~or 2~~ and at least one pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, solvent, excipient or adjuvant.

Claim 4. (currently amended) A method of preventing or alleviating chronic complications arising from diabetes mellitus, which comprises orally administering to a mammal in need of such treatment an effective amount of a compound which is {3-[(4,5,7-trifluoro-1,3-benzothiazol-2-yl)methyl]-1H-indol-1-yl}acetic acid, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, or a hydrate thereof, where the therapeutically effective amount is about 0.025 mg to 15 mg/kilogram of body weight per day.

Claim 5. (original) A method according to claim 4, wherein the compound is {3-[(4,5,7-trifluoro-1,3-benzothiazol-2-yl)methyl]-1*H*-indol-1-yl}acetic acid monohydrate.

Claim 6. (cancelled)

Claim 7. (original) A method according to claim 5 wherein the complications are selected from the group consisting of diabetic cataracts, retinopathy, nephropathy and neuropathy.

Claim 8. (cancelled)

Claim 12. (currently amended) A method of treatment according to claim 5 ~~claim 11~~ wherein the therapeutically effective amount for oral administration is about 0.05 mg to 10 mg/kilogram of body weight per day.

Claim 13. (currently amended) A method of treatment according to claim 12 ~~claim 10~~, wherein the therapeutically effective amount for oral administration is about 0.05 mg to 2.5 mg/kilogram of body weight per day.

Claim 14. (currently amended) A method according to claim 5, wherein the effective amount of the compound is contained within a unit dosage form containing about 0.5 to 100 mg ~~1 to 10 mg~~ of the compound.

Claim 15. (cancelled)

Claim 16. (currently amended) A method according to claim 14 ~~claim 15~~ wherein the unit dosage form contains about 1 mg to 50 mg of the compound.

Claim 17. (cancelled)

Claim 18. (original) A method of reducing sorbitol in tissues comprising administering from about 0.05 to 0.5 mg/kg/day of a compound which is {3-[(4,5,7-trifluoro-1,3-benzothiazol-2-yl)methyl]-1*H*-indol-1-yl}acetic acid or a salt or hydrate thereof.

Claim 19. (cancelled)

Claim 20. (original) A method of reducing fructose levels in tissues comprising administering from about 0.05 to 0.5 mg/kg/day of a compound which is {3-[(4,5,7-trifluoro-1,3-benzothiazol-2-yl)methyl]-1*H*-indol-1-yl}acetic acid or a salt or hydrate thereof.

Claim 21. (original) A method of increasing myoinositol in tissues comprising administering from about 0.05 to 0.5 mg/kg/day of a compound which is {3-[(4,5,7-trifluoro-1,3-benzothiazol-2-yl)methyl]-1*H*-indol-1-yl}acetic acid or a salt or hydrate thereof.

Claim 22. (original) A method of inhibiting the polyol-induced loss of nerve conduction velocity in the sciatic nerve comprising administering from about 0.05 to 0.5 mg/kg/day of a compound which is {3-[(4,5,7-trifluoro-1,3-benzothiazol-2-yl)methyl]-1*H*-indol-1-yl}acetic acid or a salt or hydrate thereof.

Claim 23. (original) A method of reversing cataract formation comprising administering from about 0.05 to 0.5 mg/kg/day of a

compound which is {3-[(4,5,7-trifluoro-1,3-benzothiazol-2-yl)methyl]-1*H*-indol-1-yl}acetic acid or a salt or hydrate thereof.

Claim 24. (original) A method of preventing cataract formation comprising administering from about 0.05 to 0.5 mg/kg/day of a compound which is {3-[(4,5,7-trifluoro-1,3-benzothiazol-2-yl)methyl]-1*H*-indol-1-yl}acetic acid or a salt or hydrate thereof.

Claim 25. (cancelled)

Claim 26. (currently amended) A pharmaceutical composition comprising the hydrate of claim 2 ~~{3-[(4,5,7-trifluoro-1,3-benzothiazol-2-yl)methyl]-1*H*-indol-1-yl}acetic acid monohydrate,~~ lactose and polyvinylpyrrolidinone.

Claim 27-34. (cancelled)

Claim 35. (currently amended) A process for preparing a pharmaceutical composition according to claim 27 ~~any of claims 29-34,~~ comprising forming granules of blended {3-[(4,5,7-trifluoro-1,3-benzothiazol-2-yl)methyl]-1*H*-indol-1-yl}acetic acid monohydrate, lactose monohydrate, and polyvinylpyrrolidinone, where the granules have an average size of about 1mm.

Claim 36. (original) A process for preparing a compound of claim 1, comprising forming a solution of {3-[(4,5,7-trifluoro-1,3-benzothiazol-2-yl)methyl]-1*H*-indol-1-yl}acetic acid in acetonitrile and water, and subsequently allowing crystals of the compound of claim 1 to form.

Claims 37-38. (cancelled)

Claim 39. (original) A method normalizing sorbitol levels in tissues in a human patient, which comprises administering to a a patient in need of such treatment an effective amount of a compound according to claim 1.